



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

April 23, 2020

The Honorable Brad Wenstrup  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2419 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup:

I appreciate knowing of your support for the Commission's recent adoption of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that proposes targeted changes to the rules for operation of White Space devices in the broadcast television bands. Closing the digital divide is a priority for me, and I believe that our proposals, if adopted, will expand broadband deployment to more rural Americans.

As you note, the spectrum in which TV White Space devices operate allows for the delivery of services over long distances and is better suited to deal with variations of terrain. This makes it more attractive for providing broadband in rural and remote areas. The devices operate on an unlicensed basis, which provides low barriers to entry. The NPRM sought comment on proposals to increase the power and antenna height limits for fixed white space devices deployed in less congested areas. It also proposed to authorize higher power mobile white space device operation within defined geographical areas. Finally, it proposed to revise our rules to provide flexibility for these devices to promote the development of new and innovative narrowband Internet of Things services. The comment periods for this item close on June 2, and I hope to move forward with finalizing new rules for White Space devices once our staff is able to analyze the record.

Thank you for your letter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ajit V. Pai". The signature is stylized, with the first name "Ajit" and last name "Pai" being more prominent than the middle initial "V".

Ajit V. Pai